Serial No. 09/855,374 Inventor(s): Ramesh Keshavarai

USPTO Customer No. 25280 Case No.:2086B

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are currently pending in the application. Independent claims 1 and 5 have been amended. No claims have been added or cancelled. Thus, Claims 1-8 are subject to continued examination.

Formal Rejections:

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph as being indefinite due to use of the term "rectilinear." Without adopting the position of the Office Action, the term in question has been removed and a more commonly understood term "substantially rectangular" has been used. Support for this feature is found in the drawings as filed. In light of this amendment, it is respectfully submitted that the prior rejction is most and that the claims as written are fully compliant with 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph.

Art Rejections:

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35. U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by EP 0 794 090 A1 issued to Morton International and as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,168,203 to Amamori. Continued rejection on these grounds is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

As set forth at MPEP §2131, an anticipation rejection requires that every element be disclosed in a single prior art reference. Moreover, the identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim and the elements must be arranged as required by the claim. In this regard all words of a claim must be given meaning. As best understood, these rigorous standards are not met by the art of record with respect to the claims as now presented. Accordingly, the rejection should not be maintained.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner find that any issues remain outstanding following consideration of this Response, she is invited to telephone the undersigned in the interest of resolving such matters in an expedient manner.

Respectfully submitted,

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